

Message Text

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ORIGIN AID-57

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 IO-14 COME-00 ARA-16 RSC-01 /109 R

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APPROVED BY SER/COM:WCSCHMEISSER, JR.

COM/SA:RTLOOPER

ARA/MEX:CPTORREY (PHONE)

COM/ALI:ABLOCK (SUBS)

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

9T ACTION CSA INFO AATA TAAG 4SAB LA CALI 8SAB AGRIC TVA CHRON 1 4 8

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R 200019Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS STATE 080879

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: OFFERS OF MEXICAN FERTILIZER

1 NUMEROUS OFFERS OF UREA FERTILIZER ALLEGEDLY OF MEXICAN ORIGIN AND, EITHER BEING TRUCKED OR RAILED ACROSS BORDER; ARE BEING OFFERED FOR SALE BY SEVERAL ENTREPRENEURAL TRADING COMPANIES, MOST OF WHOM WERE NOT PREVIOUSLY IN FERTILIZER BUSINESS. SOME MATERIAL ALLEGEDLY IN BROWNSVILLE AND OTHER TEXAS WAREHOUSES. OTHER OFFERS INVOLVE SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITIES FOR CURRENT SHIPMENT TO BE FOLLOWED BY REGULAR MONTHLY SHIPMENTS OF 15;000 METRIC TONS PER MONTH STARTING IN MAY.

2 MATERIAL BEING OFFERED ALLEGEDLY PRODUCED BY GUANOS Y FERTILAZANTES DE MEXICO AND/OR PEMEX

3 AS A CONSEQUENCE OF WORLDWIDE FERTILIZER SHORTAGE, USG HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY A NUMBER OF FRIENDLY COUNTRIES WITH REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN SECURING SUPPLIES. THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH TO THE U N GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON APRIL 15 WAS UNCLASSIFIED

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PARTIAL RESPONSE TO THESE REQUESTS. SIMULTANEOUS BILATERAL

CONSULTATIONS ALSO UNDERWAY

4 UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF
MEXICAN GOVERNMENT-OWNED FERTILIZER COMPANIES ARE IN A

POSITION TO OFFER QUANTITIES OF UREA FERTILIZER FOR EX-
PORT AS INDICATED BY ABOVE MENTIONED OFFERS. IF, IN FACT,
MEXICAN FERTILIZER AVAILABLE, BELIEVE IT MORE CONSTRUC-
TIVE IF INFORMATION ON AVAILABILITY OF QUANTITIES TO BE
OFFERED IN IMPRESSIVE AMOUNTS BE MADE KNOWN THROUGH
DEPARTMENT OF STATE RATHER THAN IN SMALL ODD LOTS THROUGH
AD HOC TRADING ORGANIZATIONS. REQUEST CONTACT BE MADE AT
APPROPRIATE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT LEVELS TO DETERMINE AC-
CURACY OF ABOVE AVAILABILITIES AND COOPERATION OF MEXICAN
GOVERNMENT RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUPPLIES, FERTILIZERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE080879
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MAXWELL HARWAY:LVN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740093-0269
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740426/aaaaaxhx.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AID
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2002 by BryanSD>; APPROVED <26 DEC 2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TANTIAL QUANTITIES FOR CURRENT SHIPMENT TO BE FOLLOWED BY REGULAR MONTHLY SHIPMENTS OF 15;000 METRIC TONS PER
TAGS: ETRD, MX, US, XX
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005